Private FM Radio Operators

†3189. SHRI LAJPAT RAI :

SHRI KAPIL SIBAL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that private FM radio operators have shown their inability to deposit license fee;

(b) if so, whether they have also suggested any alternative arrangement;

(c) if so, the details of such arrangements; and

(d) the outstanding amount of license fee to be paid by these private FM radio operators till December, 2002?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD) : (a) to (c) Yes Sir, some licencees have expressed difficulty in carrying on FM radio business under the prevailing licence fee structure and have asked for a 90 day moratorium for the payment of licence fee for Mumbai station.

(d) Till December, 2002, there were no outstanding licence fees, in respect of those licencees, who had not withdrawn till that date.

Corruption in North-East Channel of Doordarshan

†3190. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :

SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that inquiry into the rampant corruption in North-East Channel of Doordarshan has revealed that officials were involved in corrupt practices there;

(b) if so, the outcome of the inquiry;

(c) the names of the persons found guilty on the basis of the said inquiry; and

(d) the action taken against them, so far?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.